



Alto Vista chapel and its link to Aruba's origins



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Big foundations and nonprofits still flood to the sidelines of a diminished United Nations

By THALIA BEATY

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Even as it ponders a diminished future facing cutbacks and questions of relevance, the United Nations will still draw foundations and nonprofits to New York starting Sept. 22 for a packed schedule of conferences, meetings, happy hours and dinners on the sidelines of its general assembly of world leaders.

But the uncertainty has already had an impact. The Gates Foundation, which usually releases a report about progress toward global development goals before the U.N. General Assembly meets, has delayed this year's report



The symbol of the United Nations is displayed on the main gate outside UN headquarters, Feb. 24, 2022, in New York.

Associated Press

fy its existence," said Kevin Sheekey, senior adviser to billionaire and former New York mayor Mike Bloomberg.

Since 2017, Bloomberg's organization has convened a forum on the U.N. sidelines, which Sheekey said is a unique opportunity to make connections between world leaders, businesses and philanthropies. This year it will focus on global collaboration and investment opportunities in African countries, especially around sports.

The United Nations Foundation, founded by Ted Turner in 1998 to promote cooperation with the U.N., compiles a list of public events that take place on the sidelines. This year, the foundation has tracked about the same number of events as in previous years, said George Hampton, one of the foundation's executive directors. But he said there seems to be a greater emphasis on smaller roundtables, where conversations can be more frank and substantive.

"It is clear that the space we have to solve problems is shrinking, the kind of global cooperation table is shrinking as the problems themselves grow," Hampton said. "So it does feel there's a new urgency, a new sense that this time matters more than those before it." Clinton Global Initiative CEO Gregory Milne said the changes the nonprofit plans for this year's meeting are similar to how it responded to the Haiti earthquake in 2010 and the COVID-19 pandemic. "This is a critical moment for the global development community," he said. "But we also know that the CGI community and thousands of organizations that span the public and private sector have always worked to meet the unique and urgent challenges of the time."

An early event, hosted Thursday at the Ford Foundation, was Free Future, which focuses on ending gender-based violence. □

because it's not yet clear how much foreign aid and global health funding countries will commit going forward. Former President Bill Clinton said the Clinton Global Initiative, which started convening its annual meeting on the U.N. sidelines in 2005, will change its format this year to ask leaders from business, politics and philanthropy to develop new programs during the two-day conference.

The changes are among the signals the U.N. General Assembly also known as UNGA Week among attendees will be different this year.

The U.N.'s largest funder, the United States, has frozen funding or sought to claw it back, prompting major layoffs and program reductions across U.N. agencies. Its most powerful body, the Security Council, has not acted to stop two major wars, despite its founding mandate after World War II "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war."

The world's uncertainty has made this year's UNGA Week even more important, say some ready to join in the gatherings.

"It is still the only place that the whole world gets together and that alone, in my view, is enough to justi-

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Supreme Court will weigh expanding Trump's power to shape agencies by overturning 90-year-old ruling

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court said Monday it will consider expanding President Donald Trump's power to shape independent agencies by overturning a nearly century-old decision limiting when presidents can fire board members.

In a 6-3 decision, the high court also allowed the Republican president to carry out the firing of Rebecca Slaughter, a Democratic member of the Federal Trade Commission, while the case plays out.

It's the latest high-profile firing the court has allowed in recent months, signaling the conservative majority is poised to overturn or narrow a 1935 Supreme Court decision that found commissioners can only be removed for misconduct or neglect of duty.

Justice Elena Kagan, joined by Sonia Sotomayor and Ketanji Brown Jackson, dissented from the decision allowing Slaughter's firing. It comes after similar decisions affecting three other independent agencies.

"Congress, as everyone agrees, prohibited each of



President Donald Trump speaks to reporters aboard Air Force One while en route to Joint Base Andrews, Md. after attending a memorial for conservative activist Charlie Kirk in Glendale, Ariz., Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025.

those presidential removals," Kagan wrote. "Yet the majority, stay order by stay order, has handed full control of all those agencies to the President."

The majority did not detail their reasoning on allowing Slaughter's firing, as is typical on the court's emergency docket. The court has previously indicated that because those agencies exercise executive

power, the president likely has the power to remove board members at will, with some exceptions.

The justices are expected to hear arguments in December over whether to overturn a 90-year-old ruling known as Humphrey's Executor.

In that case, the court sided with another FTC commissioner who was fired by Franklin D. Roosevelt as the

president worked to implement the New Deal. The justices unanimously found commissioners can be removed only for misconduct or neglect of duty.

That 1935 decision ushered in an era of powerful independent federal agencies charged with regulating labor relations, employment discrimination and public airwaves.

But it has long rankled con-

servative legal theorists who argue such agencies should answer to the president.

The Justice Department argues Trump can fire board members for any reason as he works to carry out his agenda. "The President and the government suffer irreparable harm when courts transfer even some of that executive power to officers beyond the President's control," Solicitor General D. John Sauer wrote. Courts have no power to order reinstatement, only back pay, Sauer argued.

But Slaughter's attorneys say that regulatory decisions will be based more on politics than on board members' expertise if the president can fire congressionally confirmed board members at will. "If the President is to be given new powers Congress has expressly and repeatedly refused to give him, that decision should come from the people's elected representatives," they argued. The court will hear arguments unusually early in the process, before the case has fully worked its way through lower courts. □

Associated Press

U.S. bars Iran's diplomats from shopping at Costco without permission

By MATTHEW LEE

AP Diplomatic Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Trump administration has barred Iranian diplomats based in or visiting New

York from shopping at wholesale club stores like Costco and purchasing luxury goods in the United States without specific permission from the State De-

partment.

In notices to be published this week in the Federal Register, the department's Office of Foreign Missions determined that diplomatic memberships in wholesale club stores as well as diplomats' ability to buy items such as watches, furs, jewelry, handbags, wallets, perfumes, tobacco, alcohol and cars are a "benefit" requiring U.S. government approval.

However, the only country whose diplomats were specifically targeted is Iran. Stores like Costco have been a favorite of Iranian diplomats posted to and visiting New York because they are able to buy large quantities of products not

available in their economically isolated country for relatively cheap prices and send them home.

The move is another step in the Trump administration's crackdown on visas, including for leaders and diplomats seeking to serve as representatives at the United Nations. While world leaders are gathering this week for the high-profile annual meeting at the international body, the new U.S. restrictions permanently apply to any Iranian diplomats representing their country at the U.N. year-round.

The determinations, which were posted online Monday and to be printed Tuesday, said Iranian diplomats

and their dependents must "obtain approval from the Department of State prior to: obtaining or otherwise retaining membership at any wholesale club store in the United States, to include but not limited to Costco, Sam's Club, or BJ's Wholesale Club, and acquiring items from such wholesale club stores through any means."

In addition, Iranian diplomats in the U.S. must also receive permission to purchase luxury items valued at more than \$1,000 and vehicles valued at more than \$60,000, said Clifton Seagroves, the head of the Office of Foreign Missions. □



The U.N. flag flies on a stormy day at the United Nations during the United Nations General Assembly, Sept. 22, 2022.

Associated Press

ABC ends Jimmy Kimmel's suspension and his show will return Tuesday

By **MARK KENNEDY**

AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — ABC will reinstate Jimmy Kimmel's late night show in the wake of criticism over his comments about the assassination of conservative activist Charlie Kirk, officials with the network said Monday. "We have spent the last days having thoughtful conversations with Jimmy, and after those conversations, we reached the decision to return the show on Tuesday," said a statement from the network.

ABC suspended Kimmel indefinitely after comments he made about Kirk, who was killed Sept. 10, in a monologue. Kimmel said "many in MAGA land are working very hard to capitalize on the murder of Charlie Kirk" and that "the MAGA gang" was "desperately trying to characterize this kid who murdered Charlie Kirk as anything other than one of them." Kimmel has hosted "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" on ABC since 2003 and has been a fixture in television and comedy for even longer. He is also



Host Jimmy Kimmel speaks at the Oscars in Los Angeles on Feb. 26, 2017.

Associated Press

well known as a presenter, having hosted the Academy Awards four times. Backlash to Kimmel's comments about Kirk was swift. Nexstar and Sinclair, two of ABC's largest affiliate owners, said they would be pulling "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" from their stations. Others, including several fellow comedians, came to his de-

fense. There was no immediate comment from Nexstar and Sinclair in response to messages from The Associated Press. President Donald Trump, one of Kimmel's frequent targets, posted on social media that Kimmel's suspension was "great news for America." He also

called for other late night hosts to be fired. Kimmel was asked in an interview with Variety this past summer if he was worried that the administration would come after comedians. He expressed concern that a crackdown could be on the way. "Well, you'd have to be na-

ive not to worry a little bit," he said. "But that can't change what you're doing."

Kimmel's suspension arrived in a time when Trump and his administration have pursued threats, lawsuits and federal government pressure to try to exert more control over the media industry. Trump has reached settlements with ABC and CBS over their coverage. Trump has also filed defamation lawsuits against The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times. Republicans in Congress stripped federal funding from NPR and PBS.

Brendan Carr, the head of the Federal Communications Commission, issued a warning prior to Kimmel's suspension that criticized Kimmel's remarks about the Kirk assassination.

"We can do this the easy way or the hard way," Carr said.

"These companies can find ways to change conduct, to take action, frankly, on Kimmel, or there is going to be additional work for the FCC ahead." □

West Point is violating the First Amendment with a crackdown on professors, lawsuit says

By **LARRY NEUMEISTER**

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. Military Academy at West Point is banning opinions by professors in the classroom and some books and courses in a crackdown that violates the First Amendment, a law professor at the military school said in a lawsuit Monday seeking class action status.

Tim Bakken filed the lawsuit in Manhattan federal court and named the school and its leaders as defendants. He said he wants to protect free speech and the right to academic freedom at an institution where he has flourished despite his public criticisms of the academy and the U.S. military.

Bakken also noted in the lawsuit that he has a contract with a publisher for a book that is critical of some

aspects of West Point and doesn't want to seek approval from the school's leadership prior to its publication because "it is very likely such approval will be withheld."

The lawsuit seeks class ac-

tion status for West Point's civilian faculty members, believed to be more than 100 individuals, and a court order to stop restrictions on free speech, along with unspecified damages and legal fees.



West Point cadets walk on campus during lunchtime break at the United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., April 9, 2014.

Associated Press

Bakken's lawsuit said the school began to scrutinize faculty speech after a January executive order from President Donald Trump to "carefully review the leadership, curriculum and instructors of the United States Service Academies and other defense academic institutions." In February, the military academy at West Point issued a policy preventing faculty members from using the schools' "affiliation or branding" in connection with any public comments or writings without the academy's approval, the lawsuit said. The lawsuit said the policy was "to control, chill and suppress faculty speech."

The lawsuit said the academy in the spring withdrew books from its library, removed words and phrases

from faculty members' syllabi, eliminated courses and majors and threatened or punished faculty members for teaching, speaking and writing without prior approval from the school.

During the summer, the academy removed information about faculty members' published books, articles, essays and scholarship entries from all faculty members' webpages on the school's website, the lawsuit said. It also directed instructors not to express opinions in the classroom, it said.

"As a professor of law, Plaintiff's inability to express opinions on the subject matter being taught is stifling and disruptive to the educational process," the lawsuit said. □

Putin says Russia is willing to abide by nuclear arms deal with the US for 1 year after it expires

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday declared his readiness to adhere to nuclear arms limits for one more year under the last remaining nuclear pact with the United States that expires in February, and he urged Washington to follow suit.

Putin said allowing the New START agreement signed in 2010 to expire would be destabilizing and could fuel proliferation of nuclear weapons. His televised remarks came at a time of heightened tensions between Russia and the West, and with concerns rising that fighting in Ukraine could spread beyond its borders.

“To avoid provoking a further strategic arms race and to ensure an acceptable level of predictability and restraint, we believe it is justified to try to maintain the status quo established by the New START Treaty during the current, rather turbulent period,” Putin said while speaking from the Kremlin. He said Russia is prepared to stick by the treaty’s limits for one more year after it expires on Feb. 5, 2026.

Arms control advocates long have voiced concern about the treaty’s looming



Russian President Vladimir Putin, center, chairs a Security Council meeting at the Kremlin in , Russia, Monday, Sept. 22, 2025.

Associated Press

expiration and the lack of dialogue to secure a successor deal, warning about the possibility of a new nuclear arms race and increased risk of a nuclear conflict.

Putin said maintaining limits on nuclear weapons could also be an important step in “creating an atmosphere conducive to substantive strategic dialogue with the U.S.”

The New START, signed by then U.S. President Barack Obama and Russian counterpart Dmitry Medvedev,

limits each country to no more than 1,550 deployed nuclear warheads and 700 deployed missiles and bombers. The pact also stipulates the need for on-site inspections to verify compliance, although inspections were halted in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic and never resumed.

The treaty was originally supposed to expire in 2021, but was extended for five more years.

Putin urges the U.S. to reciprocate

Putin emphasized that Russia expected the U.S. to follow its example and stick to the treaty’s limits.

“We believe this measure will only be viable if the United States acts in a similar manner,” Putin said.

Daryl G. Kimball, the director of the Washington-based Arms Control Association, welcomed Putin’s statement on X as “an important and positive move.”

He and other arms control experts long have prodded Moscow and Washington

to quickly reach an interim deal to maintain existing nuclear weapons limits.

“More nuclear weapons will not make anyone safer,” Kimball said in a commentary earlier this month. “By agreeing not to exceed the current strategic nuclear limits, they could reduce tensions, forestall a costly arms race that no one can win, create diplomatic leverage to curb the buildup of China’s arsenal, and buy time for talks on a broader, more durable, treaty.”

U.S. President Donald Trump has said that he and Putin talked about nuclear weapons during their summit in Alaska last month. Asked to comment in July on a looming expiration of the New START, Trump noted “that is a big problem for the world, when you take off nuclear restrictions.”

In his televised comments, Putin instructed Russian agencies to “closely monitor relevant American activities, particularly with regard to the strategic offensive arms arsenal.” Among the concerns he cited were any preparations by the U.S. to deploy missile interceptors in space.

Such a move would compel Russia to “respond accordingly,” he said. □

U.K. charities cut ties to Sarah Ferguson after reported email describing Jeffrey Epstein as ‘friend’

By DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — A number of charities on Monday severed ties with Sarah Ferguson, the ex-wife of Prince Andrew, after British newspapers published an email that she reportedly wrote to the late convicted sex offender and financier Jeffrey Epstein, describing him as a “supreme friend.”

Julia’s House, a children’s hospice, said that the reported correspondence made it inappropriate for Ferguson, also known as the Duchess of York, to remain a patron. A spokesman for Ferguson said that she sent an email on the advice of her lawyers after Epstein threatened to sue her for associating him with sexual abuse in a media interview, Britain’s Press Association reported.

“Following the information shared this

weekend on the Duchess of York’s correspondence with Jeffrey Epstein, Julia’s House has taken the decision that it would be inappropriate for her to continue as a patron of the charity,” the charity said. “We have advised the Duchess of York of this decision and thank her for her past support.”

A food allergy charity, The Natasha Allergy Research Foundation, and Prevent Breast Cancer, were also among the charities that cut ties in light of recent revelations. The Teenage Cancer Trust, which had an association with Ferguson for 35 years, also dropped her as a patron.

The email referred to a 2011 interview with the Evening Standard newspaper in which she apologized for accepting 15,000 pounds from Epstein. □



Sarah Ferguson waves the to the crowd was she attends the Easter Matins Service at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, England, on April 20, 2025.

Associated Press

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North Korean leader recalls 'good memories' of Trump, urges U.S. to drop denuclearization demands

By KIM TONG-HYUNG

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— North Korean leader Kim Jong Un says he still has good memories of U.S. President Donald Trump and urged Washington to drop its demand the North surrender its nukes as a precondition for resuming long-stalled diplomacy.

Speaking to Pyongyang's rubber-stamp parliament on Sunday, Kim stressed that he has no intention of ever resuming dialogue with rival South Korea, a key U.S. ally that helped broker Kim's previous summits with Trump during the American president's first term, according to a speech published by state media on Monday.

Kim suspended virtually all cooperation with the South following the collapse of his second summit with Trump in 2019 over disagreements about U.S.-led sanctions against the North. Tensions on the Korean Peninsula have worsened in recent



This photo provided by the North Korean government, shows North Korean leader Kim Jong Un speaks during a parliament session at the Supreme People's Assembly, which was held on Sept. 20-21, 2025 in Pyongyang, North Korea.

years as Kim has accelerated his weapons buildup and aligned with Russia over the war in Ukraine.

Kim's comments came as South Korean President Lee Jae Myung departed for New York to attend the U.N.

General Assembly, where he is expected to address nuclear tensions on the Korean Peninsula and call on North Korea to return to talks.

Trump is also expected to visit South Korea next

month to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, prompting media speculation that he may try to meet Kim at the inter-Korean border, as they did during their third meeting in 2019, which ul-

Associated Press

timately failed to salvage their nuclear diplomacy.

During his latest speech at the Supreme People's Assembly, Kim reiterated that he would never give up his nuclear weapons program, which experts say he sees as his strongest guarantee of survival and the extension of his family's dynastic rule.

"The world already knows well what the United States does after forcing other countries to give up their nuclear weapons and disarm," Kim said. "We will never lay down our nuclear weapons ... There will be no negotiations, now or ever, about trading anything with hostile countries in exchange for lifting sanctions."

He said he still holds "good personal memories" of Trump from their first meetings and that there is "no reason not to" resume talks with the United States if Washington "abandons its delusional obsession with denuclearization." □

U.N. human rights expert says Russia steps up repression to silence opposition to war in Ukraine

GENEVA (AP) — A U.N. expert monitoring human rights in Russia said Monday that "repression is escalating," targeting civilians, journalists and even Ukrainian prisoners of war in an attempt to silence dissent and opposition to the war in Ukraine.

Mariana Katzarova, the U.N. special rapporteur focusing on human rights in Russia, presented her latest report that said Russian authorities have stepped up their use of "criminal prosecution, long-term imprisonment, torture and ill-treatment" to quell opposition to the war ordered by President Vladimir Putin.

"The repression is escalating ... and becoming massive," Katzarova told journalists before presenting the report to the Human Rights Council, which created her post after Russia's full-scale invasion of

Ukraine in February 2022.

"The masterminds of this repression are employing new elaborate tools against a total impunity for their actions: Torture is also part of this equation, as a tool," she said.

Her report said that over the one year covered, starting in mid-2024, the number of prosecutions increased, "with at least 3,905 individuals convicted on administrative or criminal charges for peaceful dissent."

Most recently, Katzarova noted that through July, more than 150 children aged 14 to 17 were added to the federal list of "extremists" and "terrorists," she reported, adding that some were accused of treason and subjected to torture to extract confessions. □



A police officer detains a demonstrator during a protest against a partial mobilization in Moscow, Russia, Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022.

Associated Press

Create museum memories

ORANJESTAD – Museums are an integral part of conserving and honoring cultures, and Aruba is no exception. Our Island has a wide selection of various museums for our locals and visitors to see. Take this opportunity to learn about our island and experience a different day beyond the beach. Let us introduce to you to these locations.

Museum of Industry Aruba
Museum of Industry is located in San Nicolas, better known as the art capital of Aruba. This museum presents the history of gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and tourism through elaborated displays and multimedia installations.

The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower in San Nicolas and narrates Aruba's industrial history which began in the 19th century. The Water Tower was built in 1939 and consists of three sections: the substructure, the high-rising vertical shaft, and the tank at the top. The Water Tower was purchased by the Monuments fund in 2003 so it could be restored and preserved as one of Aruba's monuments. The Museum of Industry is part of Fundacion Museo Arubano (FMA), which is a foundation set to maintain, preserve, and protect the Aruban culture sector, history, and nature. The museum of Industry is open daily from 9 am till 1 pm.

For more information check out their Facebook page



Museum of Industry Aruba.

Archaeological Museum of Aruba
The Archaeological Museum of Aruba is located at Schelpstraat 42 in downtown Oranjestad. The renovated historic Ecury complex in downtown Oranjestad has been transformed from a family home to a modern museum that preserves Aruba's Amerindian cultural heritage. This 21st century museum is especially designed to preserve valuable artifacts dating back to the Pre-Ceramic period of 2500 BC.

In the late 1980's AMA identified its need for an adequate housing for its collection and activities. After studying various options, a project proposal was drawn up, including the acquisition and restoration of historical buildings in downtown Oranjestad.

These historical buildings were formerly the property of the Ecury family. The "Ecury Complex", is a

cluster of single and two-story historic buildings, mainly Dutch colonial architecture from the late 19th and 20th century on a plot of approximately 1.700 m2.

In 1997 the Aruban Government bought the complex for the National Archaeological

Museum project. In 2004 a financial agreement was signed with the European Development Fund and in 2006 restoration and construction work began on the monumental buildings and the new to build exhibition space. In December 2007 the key to the complex was delivered and the museum's employees moved to the new location. The final design for the exhibit was completed in November 2007 and the permanent exhibit, financed by the Aruban Government and the Union of Cultural Organizations (UNOCA), opened in July 2009.

At the new location the National Archaeological Museum Aruba disposes of approximately 500 m2 for

its permanent exhibit. This exhibit conveys through archaeological objects and modern exhibition techniques information on the origin and culture of the first inhabitants of the island. The new permanent exhibit gives the visitor an insight into the cultures that inhabited the island in Pre-Historical and Early Historical times. The museum also hosts an attractive public program including lectures, educational projects, temporary exhibits and workshops.

The museum is open daily from 9:30 am till 4:30 pm.

For more information check out the Facebook page Museo Arqueologico Nacional Aruba.



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Casago Aruba: Redefining Island Stays with Full-Service Property Management

Casago Aruba was born from a shared passion for elevating the island's tourism experience. Built on a strong foundation of service, hospitality, and a keen eye for quality, the Casago team—backed by over 16 years of experience in the vacation rental and hospitality industry—is on a mission to redefine what luxury and convenience look like for travelers visiting Aruba. But Casago is more than just a vacation rental platform. It is a full-service property management company, offering seamless experiences for both guests and homeowners alike. While travelers benefit from handpicked accommodations and personalized service, homeowners gain a reliable partner dedicated to the care and performance of their property. A Stay Tailored to You

Casago Aruba offers more than just stylish villas. Their curated portfolio includes



a wide variety of condos, homes, and villas in different sizes to suit all types of travelers—from solo adventurers and couples to large families and groups. Every stay is backed by local expertise, with concierge support, 24/7 guest assistance, and an attention to detail that consistently exceeds expectations. Whether you're here to relax on world-famous beaches, explore Aruba's cultural gems, or discover hidden corners of the is-

land, Casago Aruba ensures your getaway is as smooth as it is memorable. A Partner for Homeowners Behind the scenes, Casago offers a robust suite of property management services designed to help homeowners maximize rental income while minimizing stress. Services include:

- Promotion through Casago's professional booking platform and expert local marketing strategies
- Complete management of check-ins, guest communication, cleanings, landscaping, pool maintenance, and repairs
- **Transparent maintenance reporting**, real-time reservation tracking, and on-site security monitoring
- **Full handling of tax filings** for both local and



state requirements

- **Monthly property inspections** and full utility bill management
- **Strategic planning** to help homeowners increase profitability and keep their properties in top condition

This full-service model ensures that every home is maintained to the highest standard while giving property owners full peace of mind.

Rooted in Community and Sustainability

What truly sets Casago Aruba apart is their commitment to the local community and to sustainable practices. The team works



closely with local businesses and artisans, promotes eco-conscious travel, and supports initiatives that contribute positively to the island's environment and economy.

As one of the fastest-growing vacation rental and property management companies on the island, Casago Aruba continues to expand its footprint—welcoming more travelers, partnering with more homeowners, and raising the standard of hospitality in Aruba.

Blackstone Beach

(Oranjestad)—Named after its most recognizable feature, the Blackstone Beach almost represents the opposite of the typical Aruban beaches. For one, it has black sand and is covered in black smooth stones. Secondly, it lies on the northern side of the island, away from the white sandy beaches of in the southern region. So, if you feel up for something different—or if it's opposite day, visit the Blackstone Beach.

Blackstone Beach shows the more natural side of Aruba: the stones that cover the beaches and

the shape of it has been crafted for thousand years via volcanic eruptions, coral reef movements and wave activity of the rural northern part of the island.

Located further east to the Natural Bridge and Andicuri Beach, the Blackstone Beach is relatively easy to access. Once you get passed the Ayo Rock Formation, take the Andicuri road leading up to Andicuri Beach. There, you can park your car and take a 1km hike towards Blackstone Beach.

This beach forms part of the Arikok National Park



and is therefore a site that is preserved. This is why it is also relatively untouched by commercial influences. Despite being called a beach, do note that it is

not advised to swim in the water, as the current is very strong and can easily stray you further in the wild ocean. However, you can still enjoy a spectacular

view of the stones and the northern ocean that stretches out in front of the beach and take a picture with your friends or family!



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Po-Ké Ono Brings Bold Asian Fusion to Aruba's Dining Scene

Innovative eatery blends island culture with modern Asian cuisine

Oranjestad, Aruba – In a culinary landscape known for its diversity and creativity, Po-Ké Ono stands out as a vibrant and contemporary addition to Aruba's restaurant scene. With locations at Azure in Palm Beach and the Renaissance Marketplace in Oranjestad, the concept introduces a refreshing take on Asian fusion dining—casual in style, yet refined in execution.



Established in 2020, Po-Ké Ono was envisioned as a space where flavor, culture, and creativity intersect. The menu features an array of signature dishes including poke bowls, steamed bao, and sushi, crafted with precision and

a focus on freshness. Drawing on Asian influences, the restaurant delivers bold flavors in an approachable format, appealing to a broad audience of locals and visitors alike. The ambiance is designed to be welcoming and re-



laxed, with a philosophy centered around accessibility and enjoyment. Whether dining indoors or grabbing a quick bowl on the go, guests can expect a consistently high standard in both service and cuisine. With extensive menu options, including selections for vegan diners, Po-Ké Ono caters to a wide range of tastes and dietary preferences. While the concept leans into fast-casual dining, the

quality of ingredients and thoughtful preparation reflect fine-dining roots. Many of the restaurant's core ingredients are sourced locally, emphasizing sustainability and support for Aruba's agricultural community. The result is a dining experience that honors both the island's spirit and the culinary traditions it draws inspiration from. Open daily from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM, Po-Ké Ono continues to gain recogni-



tion as one of the island's premier destinations for sushi, poke, and bao. Its growing popularity is a testament to Aruba's evolving food culture—one that embraces global influence while staying rooted in community and craft.

For those seeking a modern taste of Asia in the heart of the Caribbean, Po-Ké Ono offers a flavorful and memorable experience worth exploring.



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Alto Vista chapel and its link to Aruba's origins

ORANJESTAD – According to Etnia Nativa, in the 18th century most of the inhabitants of Aruba were indigenous who lived on the north coast, one of the largest communities lived in Alto Vista.

As they were very religious, they had a chief with the name of Antonio Silvester who guided them in the Christian life and it was he who decided to build a stone chapel with a roof of corn rods, which would serve as a place of prayer. In 1750 it was blessed by Father Algemesi who came from Coro-Venezuela and appointed Domingo Antonio Silvester as the island's first prosecutor in the name of the Spanish crown and Rome. In 1752 the prosecution passed into the hands of Antonio Silvester's son-in-law, Miguel Álvarez, who continued to guide the parishioners in their prayers.

According to the book, The History of Alto Vista by R.H. Nooyen, it is not known when Domingo Antonio Silvester came to



Aruba from Venezuela. The elders believe Antonio was a Spaniard. In 1780, father Joseph Antonio de la Vegal called Bernardino Silvester, one of Antonio's sons with his wife Anna Cathalina Tromp, "neighbors and naturals of the island Aruba" and thus they became natives.

At the end of the eighteen century many inhabitants the island died as a result of the black fever epidemic and since people believed that the Alto Vista area was

the most infected, they began to build their homes further south within the Noord area, so the town of Noord began to grow into a community till getting its own Church. However religious festivals continued to be celebrated at this sacred native place, with the custom of arriving in procession to Alto Vista.

Two-hundred years after the beautiful time of Alto Vista, people can no longer see much of the town of Alto Vista from 1750. With a lot

of work they found the old foundations of the Church of the Queen of the Holiest Rosary to build a new chapel on the same place. The entire surrounding area was empty and desolated, making it hard to imagine that Alto Vista was a town at all. A hundred years later, people can see the remains of around twenty houses, some made of stone and others of clay. Nowadays, only around six of these houses remain.

South of the chapel in

the yard two graves can be observed, there was the cemetery which father Pablo de Algemesi blessed. It is not certain, but it is believed that the two graves belong to Antonio Silvester and Miguel Alvares, according to Nooyen. About 50 meters near the chapel there are still the markings of an old house, where Antonio and Bernardino Silvester would have lived. About 200 meters from the chapel there is a water tank which the locals call Tanki Cacique. In the past this tank was closed. But mostly water was brought out from the Poz di Noord, a well dug in the sand.

The chapel can be viewed from basically any point in the north side, even from Paradera and Sero Plat. All the historical remains around the chapel provide us with an idea on how the old people of Alto Vista used to live. Don't miss the opportunity to visit a place of historical significance with a window to Aruba's past.

Ever heard of the cah'i orgel? A key instrument in Aruban folklore music

(Oranjestad)—The cah'i orgel music box is an important and unique instrument that is used on the ABC islands in the Dutch Caribbean. This instrument is a staple in our folklore music, and its significance in the traditions of Aruba has and continues to bring together the old and young.

The origin of the cah'i orgel is said to have come from Europe around 150 years ago. A cross breed between the barrel piano and the organ, the most popular stories said that the instrument came from either England or Germany, but made its way to Italy down to Venezuela, where in 1881, Mr. Horatio Sprock (1866-1949) from Curacao was first introduced to it. After that, Sprock made his own cah'i orgel "Josefina", and successfully debuted it on the streets of Barqui-

simeto. Back in Curacao, he started his own cah'i orgel business along with his brother Luis. In Aruba, it is said that the cah'i orgel was introduced by Rufo Wever, who later in his career became one of the composers for the Aruban national anthem.

Rufo Wever was a young musician in 1937 when he established his own cah'i orgel business on the island. Before that he experimented with his uncle's cah'i orgel, and he over the years he learned to build and repair the instrument. In fact, he was incredibly skilled in this, and he was one of the few to have recognized from the start that the cah'i orgel is an instrument that needs preserving.

As mentioned, the cah'i orgel is a music box. made from mahogany wood, it

contains a cylinder with a maximum of eight music pieces. By rotating the lever on the front side of the box, the cah'i orgel produces music similar to that of a piano, and is accompanied often by someone else playing the "wiri", a percussion instrument made out of steel and reminiscent to the Spanish guiro. Back then, you would often also find someone playing the triangle alongside the cah'i orgel and wiri. In Aruba, the cah'i orgel and wiri is used for traditional music genres, such as the Aruban waltz, tumba, mazurka and more.

Fun fact: another name for the cah'i orgel is the "tingilingi box."

Source: "E Cilinder Magico entre Aruba y Curaçao" by Marilyn Alcalá-Wallé, Herta Parabirsing-Balentina and Nidia Rosaria-Wallé.



The Aruban Cunukero; From past to present

(Oranjestad)—Aruba's culture consists of rich historical traditions that make up the Aruban identity and lifestyle. However, the life of the cunukero (farmer) is perhaps the most important aspect of our culture, in a sense representing to locals the true essence of the Aruban.

Historically, cunucus (farms) played a huge role in the early social and economic development of Aruba, and its relevance dates back to the early days of the colonization era. Upon being discovered by Spanish conquistadors in the late 15th century, Aruba was used primarily as a ranch, housing horses and cattle brought from Europe. During the Dutch colonization era where the West Indian Company (WIC) dominated the economic sphere on the island, using the land to set up cattle farms and ranches remained popular. Anthropologist Sidney Mintz divided Caribbean farmers back in four categories:

1. The "squatters", who were mostly comprised of illegal and poor colonists, runaway slaves and deserters who took advantage of the Spanish's weak supervision on Caribbean islands like Cuba and the DR;
2. Then you have "Early Yeomen", who were legal farmers who came to the west under contract. Once their contract expired, they were given a plot of land for independent use;



3. Proto-Peasants were plantation slaves who were allowed to have a small piece of land to grow food for their own consumption. This was to curb the cost of living on the plantations;
4. Lastly you have the "Runaway Peasantries", usually comprised of runaway slaves who acquired farming tools and cattle through stealing or through secret exchanges with other slaves from different

plantations. However, the Aruban cunukeros back then are hard to place, and their history may explain why. From 1636 (beginning of Dutch colonization era) to before the oil industry in 1924, Aruba's population consisted of mostly farmers. These farmers were mostly indigenous and were characterized as peasants. They weren't allowed to participate in trading, but instead were granted a piece of

land to live off of. However, in exchange for this grant, these indigenous farmers were obligated to work for the WIC, doing daily tasks such as taking care of or hunting cattle—large majority of which were destined for Curacao, clean water tanks and chop wood, among other things. As much as these farmers were given to opportunity to live "free" with a plot of land, their exclusion from the trading and business world, as well as being deprived the chance to become real property and cattle owners, made them a unique group among Caribbean farmers at the time.

The WIC placed a lot of restrictions on these indigenous farmers—a method to safeguard their cattle deposit on the island. The indigenous farmers were mostly granted less than 7 acres of land. Those who owned bigger land were either once affiliated with the WIC or were colonists who settled on the island to try their luck at farming. In 1767, there were about 120 houses/cunucus on the island.

These Aruban farmers were also limited to the amount of cattle they could keep. Most kept goats as cattle, as only those who were affiliated with the WIC could keep (more) sheep. Of the 76 goat herders on the island, about 45 of them had less than 30 goats, and only 7 of them had more than 60 goats.

It wasn't until the WIC was defunct in late 18th cen-

tury that these farmers were able to obtain more freedom as cunukeros. After 1824, the government gave these farmers official permission to keep livestock, and the obligations once placed on them were officially discarded.

Because of the dry climate in Aruba, growing food for commercial purposes was not popular. The focus was mainly on cattle herding and taking care of livestock. However, livestock need food to survive, and when Aruba experienced its duper dry climate, many farmers would see a big loss in their livestock, and hence profit.

Although the WIC at one point did try to come up with an initiative to get more people to have land on the island, the climate never really allowed real profit from farming. Because of the climate, Aruban farmers in general could not keep large quantities of livestock. At a certain point toward the end of the 18th century, the climate got so bad that many farmers decided to leave the island for a while.

For this reason, the farming economy on the island remained small. As the years went by and people noticed that these farms could not really produce any sustainable profit, farmers kept their small piece of land just to live off of. This is why the Aruban cunukeros only played a very tiny role into the plantation economy.

In modern Aruba, cunucus and cunukeros still exist on the island, fortunately with more freedom and more opportunity to tap into the agricultural market. These farmers usually sell their produce on a smaller scale, like during farmers' market events and other types of (holiday) events.

Source: "Arubaans Akkoord: Opstellen over Aruba van voor de komst van de olieindustrie (Aruban Accord: Essays on Aruba Before the Arrival of the Oil Industry)" by Alofs, Luc; Rutgers, Wim; Coomans, Henry E. red.



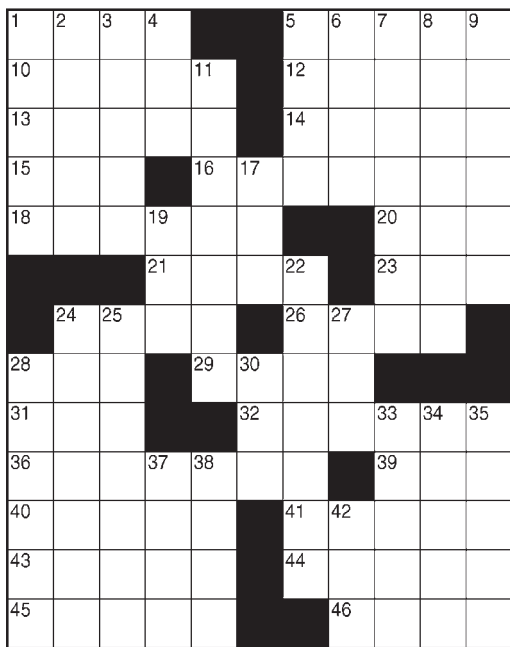
CROSSWORD

By **THOMAS JOSEPH**

- ACROSS**
- 40 Blender
- 1 Wild speed
guess 41 Dodge
- 5 Company 43 Moved
division cautiously
- 10 Home run, 44 Easy runs
in slang
- 12 Con- 45 Judges
cerning
- 13 Chosen 46 "Chicago"
few actor

DOWN

- 1 Teakettle 9 Mall units 30 Tad's dad
output brown
- 11 Bristles at 34 Tribal
17 Be a leader
- 19 Toe count 35 Baseball's
Pee Wee
- 22 Duds 37 Abound
- 24 Conspire 38 Danson
and
- 25 Blow up
Turner
- 27 Id — 42 Fireplace
item
- 28 Desig-
nated



9-28

A XYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

9-28

CRYPTOQUOTE

U LA VXUTDY KURC DCV UT Q

V QGU QTL YQI, "VXC

KUMFQFI, QTL YVCH AT UV."

— LQEUL PAYVCF ZQKKQOC

Cryptoquote: WHEN THE WHOLE
WORLD IS SILENT, EVEN ONE VOICE BECOMES
POWERFUL. — MALALA YOUSAFZAI

Cruise ship Schedule: Sep 16 - 30 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
TUE	16	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
TUE	23	CARNIVAL MAGIC	09.00	22.00	C	1
		ISLAND PRINCESS	09.00	21.00	B	1
		FREEWINDS	10.00	****	E	1
WED	24	OASIS OF THE SEAS	07.00	16.00	I	1
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	C	1
SUN	28	GRAND PRINCESS	09.00	17.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	30	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

	2	6		7	4		1	
	3		8	1	2			
7	1	5		3				4
		1	2		7		3	
6				5	3	1		
3		2		4	6		9	
2		4			1		5	8
9				2				
			4	6	5	3		

Difficulty: ★★

9/23

Answer to previous puzzle

8	1	6	7	2	5	9	3	4
7	4	3	6	9	1	5	8	2
2	5	9	4	8	3	6	1	7
6	7	4	2	5	8	1	9	3
1	3	5	9	6	4	2	7	8
9	2	8	3	1	7	4	6	5
3	8	2	1	4	9	7	5	6
4	9	7	5	3	6	8	2	1
5	6	1	8	7	2	3	4	9

Difficulty: ★

9/22

Google faces antitrust déjà vu as U.S. seeks to break up its digital advertising business



A sign is displayed on a Google building at their campus in Mountain View, Calif., Sept. 24, 2019. Associated Press

By MICHAEL LIETKE
AP Technology Writer

After deflecting the U.S. Justice Department's attack on its illegal monopoly in online search, Google is facing another attempt to dismantle its internet empire in a trial focused on its abusive tactics in digital advertising.

The trial that opened Monday in an Alexandria, Virginia, federal court revolves around the harmful conduct that resulted in U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema declaring parts of Google's digital advertising technology to be an illegal monopoly. The judge found that Google has been engaging in behavior that stifles competition to the detriment of online publishers that depend on the system for revenue. Google and the Justice Department will spend the next two weeks in court presenting evidence in a "remedy" trial that will culminate in Brinkema issuing a ruling on how to restore fair market conditions.

"The purpose of a remedy is doing what is necessary to restore competition," said Julia Tarver Wood in an opening statement for the DOJ's antitrust division.

Wood said that the Google is manipulating the market in a way that is antithetical to free market competition.

"The means to cheat are buried in computer codes and algorithms," Wood said.

An attorney for Google, Karen Dunn, countered that the remedy proposed by the government is reckless and radical, and that the DOJ is attempting to remove Google entirely from the competition. □

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Central: Tel.585 1965

San Nicolas:

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OTHER

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

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Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
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American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

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FAVI- Visually Impaired
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Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989
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Relacional Tel. 583 5400
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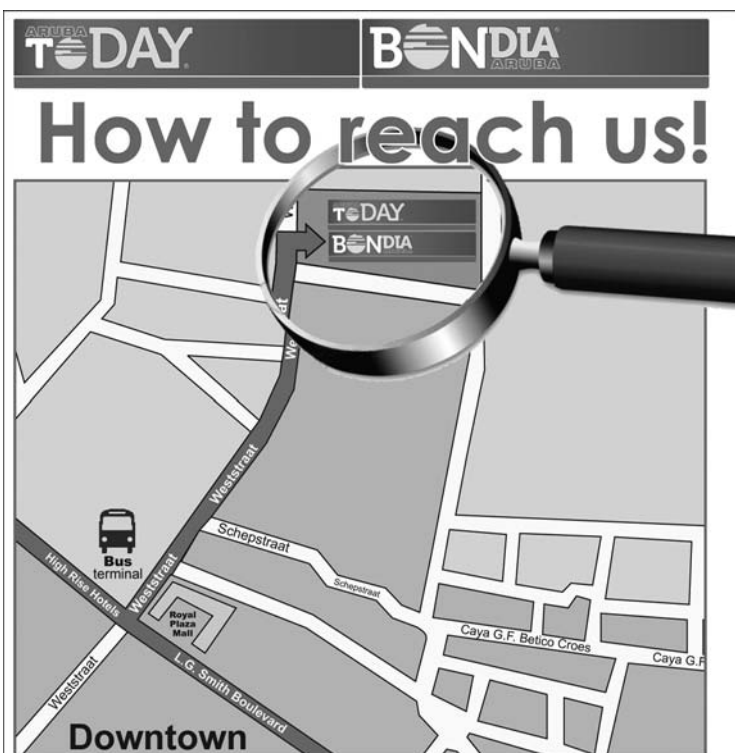
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS



Literary mystery meets dystopian future in Ian McEwan's 'What We Can Know'

By JILL LAWLESS
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — When novelists look to the future, the view is often grim. There are a lot more fictional dystopias than utopias.

Ian McEwan has good news and bad news about what lies ahead in "What We Can Know," a book he calls "science fiction without the science."

The British author's 19th novel, published Tuesday in the U.S. by Knopf, is set in 2119 and follows a professor of literature researching a famed 21st-century poet and his circle.

So far, so cozy. But it's a world in which nuclear war, pandemics, economic collapse and climate change a period known as The Derangement have halved the global population. The United States is a lawless land of feuding warlords. Nigeria is the global superpower. Inundated England has been reduced to a string of small island republics.

McEwan, 77, said that his working assumption is that humanity will "just scrape through" the next century of crises and catastrophes. The novel seeks "to look at the present through the rather envious eyes of someone in the future."

Literary mystery

Those eyes belong to Tom Metcalfe, an English academic studying the famous



Ian McEwan, British novelist and screenwriter, gestures as he speaks to press during an interview in London, Friday, Sept. 12, 2025.

(fictional) poet Francis Blundy, and a legendary lost poem that he read aloud at a dinner party in 2014.

As dystopias go, it's a gentle one. Tom sifts through reams of 21st-century social media detritus for nuggets of information gold that may lead to the missing poem. He later undertakes an adventurous journey with touches of "Treasure Island."

To Tom, our era is a barely imaginable time of abundance, natural diversity and human folly.

"What brilliant invention and boneheaded greed,"

he says.

Readers may hear the author's voice in the sentiment.

"There is something very reminiscent to me of the ninth century about contemporary life: passionately superstitious, even as we have extraordinary discoveries in biomedicine and in cosmology," McEwan told The Associated Press. "At one point I describe the process of social media as if some medieval horde had run onto the wrong stage."

Partway through the book, McEwan delivers a twist that dramatically shifts the

reader's perspective. It's something he has done before, notably in 2001's "Atonement" his bestselling novel, which many consider his best.

The book's second half delivers surprise, violence, betrayal and another McEwan trademark evidence of the "terrible things that perfectly ordinary people can do."

McEwan said that he wants readers "to be, not disoriented, but just to pass through a different mirror turning the page from part one to part two."

"I hope to bring the reader back to the title."

Associated Press

Not a climate change novel

McEwan says he's not an "issues novelist," although his books often touch on social problems and world affairs: the 2003 invasion of Iraq in "Saturday," climate change in "Solar," artificial intelligence in "Machines Like Me."

In "What We Can Know," humanity has wreaked havoc on nature. But McEwan says "this isn't really a novel about climate change."

"The only way to write about climate change is not to," McEwan said, as the weather outside his London home changed in an instant from sunshine to downpour. "To actually put at the center properly conceived characters and other issues and let the climate change matter simply be there as a given."

"It's already a given. The last thing I want to do is warn people about it. No one needs any warning about it," he said. "All that matters is your response to it."

Upstart to elder statesman

McEwan made his name in the 1970s and '80s with unsettling works like "The Cement Garden" and "The Comfort of Strangers." Today, he's one of the United Kingdom's most commercially and critically successful novelists, a five-time Booker Prize finalist who won the prestigious award in 1998 for "Amsterdam." □

George Takei to lead Banned Books Week, urging the fight against censorship



George Takei appears at the 75th annual Tony Awards in New York on June 12, 2022.

Associated Press

By HILLEL ITALIE
AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Actor-activist George Takei's next project is on behalf of a long-time passion the right to read.

The American Library Association announced Monday that the 88-year-old Takei will serve as honorary chair of Banned Books Week, which takes place Oct. 5-11. Libraries and bookstores around the country will highlight books that have been censored, from Maia Kobabe's "Gender Queer" to Toni Morrison's "The Bluest Eye." "I remember all too well the lack of access to books and media that I needed growing up. First as a child in a barbed-wire prison camp, then as a gay young man

in the closet, I felt confused and hungry for understanding about myself and the world around me," said the "Star Trek" actor, who spent part of his childhood in a Japanese internment camp during World War II.

"Please stand with me in opposing censorship, so that we all can find ourselves and each other in books."

Previous honorary chairs for Banned Books Week, established in 1982, include Ava DuVernay, LeVar Burton and Jason Reynolds. Takei will share leadership with honorary youth chair Iris Mogul, a first-year student at the University of California, Santa Cruz who has been active for years in anti-banning campaigns. □

Baseball's final week should be even wilder than expected. You can thank the state of Ohio for that

By NOAH TRISTER
AP Baseball Writer

From the shore of Lake Erie to the Kentucky border, baseball's regular season is set for a dramatic final week in the state of Ohio. The Cleveland Guardians have a chance to complete the biggest comeback in the history of divisional play. They now trail Detroit by one game in the AL Central after once being 15 1/2 back. At the southern end of the state, Cincinnati pulled into a tie Sunday for the final wild card in the National League with the New York Mets and the Reds have the head-to-head tiebreaker between the two.

No team has ever won a division after being more than 14 games behind, and Cleveland's 15 1/2-game deficit in early July doesn't even do this comeback justice. As recently as Sept. 11, Detroit led the division by 9 1/2 over Cleveland. Since then, the Tigers (85-71) have been trapped in a Motown Meltdown, losing nine of 10 while the Guardians (84-72) went on a 10-game winning streak that was finally snapped Sunday. Cleveland cut the



Cincinnati Reds shortstop Elly De La Cruz (44) and outfielder Noelvi Marte (16) bump shoulders after defeating the Chicago Cubs, Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025, in Cincinnati.

Associated Press

lead from 9 1/2 games to one in a span of only 10 days.

For the Reds, the situation has looked bleak at various points. They were six games out of a playoff spot on Sept. 6 and also trailed San Francisco and Arizona before a New York skid helped the Reds pull within 1 1/2 games less than a week later. The Cincinnati fell three games behind, but a four-game sweep of

the Chicago Cubs now has the Reds and Mets even, with the Diamondbacks only a game back of them.

Other races that are coming down to the wire:

- The AL East, where Toronto (90-66) leads the New York Yankees (88-68) by two games. Those teams have the top two records in the American League, so a first-round bye is at stake here.
- The AL West, where Se-

attle (87-69) leads Houston (84-72) by three and the Mariners have the tiebreaker. The Astros have not missed the postseason since 2016, but they're in danger now with the Red Sox (85-71) in play for a wild card along with the AL East and AL Central runners-up. •San Diego is three games behind the Los Angeles Dodgers atop the NL West, but the Dodgers have the tiebreaker and the teams

don't play each other this week.

Head to head

Detroit will have no choice but to snap out of its funk if it wants to save its season. The Tigers go to Cleveland for three games before finishing the regular season with a series at Boston.

Line of the week

Dominic Canzone went 5 for 5 with three homers and four RBIs to help Seattle to a 12-5 win over Kansas City on Tuesday night. That game capped a 10-game winning streak for the Mariners, who have now won 14 of 15 to turn a 3 1/2-game deficit in the division into a three-game lead.

Comeback of the week

Philadelphia rallied from a four-run deficit in the sixth inning to beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 9-6 on Tuesday night. That was after Shohei Ohtani no-hit the Phillies for five innings. He also homered in the game. Brandon Marsh and Max Kepler both homered during a six-run sixth for Philadelphia, and after the Dodgers tied it at 6, Rafael Marchán hit a three-run homer in the top of the ninth to provide the winning margin. □

Kirby Smart finally draws a home game for No. 5 Georgia against No. 17 Alabama after 10-year wait

By CHARLES ODUM
AP Sports Writer

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) — Kirby Smart has had to wait 10 years for his Georgia team to play at home against Alabama.

Saturday night's visit by No. 17 Alabama to No. 5 Georgia gives Smart, the former Crimson Tide defensive coordinator, a long-awaited opportunity to have the home-field advantage in the high-profile Southeastern Conference rivalry.

While waiting on this home game, Georgia has struggled to a 1-6 record against Alabama under Smart. One of Smart's highlights of his decade leading the Georgia program is beating Alabama in Indianapolis on Jan. 10,

2022, to win the national championship, ending a 41-year title drought for the program. Georgia added a second straight national title the following year.

Otherwise, Alabama is 6-0 against Georgia in

the Smart era. The Crimson Tide beat the Bulldogs 41-34 in Tuscaloosa last season in Kalen DeBoer's first SEC game as Alabama's coach. It was Alabama's second home win over Smart's Bulldogs.



Georgia head coach Kirby Smart celebrates the team's overtime win after an NCAA college football game against Tennessee, Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025, in Knoxville, Tenn.

Associated Press

Alabama's other four wins over Smart and Georgia have come in Atlanta, including three SEC championship games and the 2018 national championship game.

Can Georgia's home-field advantage end Alabama's run of success against the Bulldogs?

"Playing at home, it helps," Smart said Monday. "The atmosphere helps, the crowd noise helps, being familiar with your surroundings and all that stuff helps, but at the end of the day, you have to go play football. It comes down to matchups, it comes down to who blocks and who tackles the best, who executes and does things in the key moments of the

game. So, certainly glad it's at home, but we've still got to play well."

Georgia (3-0, 1-0) gained momentum for the visit from Alabama by beating Tennessee 44-41 in overtime on Sept. 13 in another important SEC game. Alabama (2-1, 0-0) beat Wisconsin 38-14 on Sept. 13. The Bulldogs and Crimson Tide were off last week.

Georgia's first two home games were wins over Marshall and Austin Peay. Smart wasn't happy to see fans leaving in the third quarter of the runaway 45-7 victory over Marshall on Aug. 30, and a weather delay helped put a damper on the crowd in a sluggish 28-6 win over Austin Peay on Sept. 6. □

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Patrick Cantlay brings reputation of clutch putting and unwanted attention at Ryder Cup

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

FARMINGDALE, N.Y. (AP)

— Patrick Cantlay, often better at asking questions than giving answers, had one question as he walked up the final hole at Marco Simone two years ago at the Ryder Cup.

Why is everyone waving their hats?

"I knew they were yelling at me," Cantlay recalled in a recent interview. "I couldn't make out what they were saying. I didn't know anything about the false media story until I was finished playing. I had no idea what was happening. I just knew it was happening."

The story to which he referred was a report based on anonymous sources by Sky Sports that Cantlay chose not to wear a hat during the Ryder Cup in Rome out of protest for not getting paid. "That's the furthest thing from the truth," Cantlay said that day. Lost in the hat-waving was the performance. Cantlay was the prime American target of heckling from fans at Marco Simone during the last fourballs match with Wyndham Clark against Europe's beloved Rory McIlroy and Matt Fitzpatrick. The Americans were 1 down with three holes to play when Cantlay made a 10-foot putt on the 16th to stay alive, an 8-foot birdie putt on the par-3 17th to square the match and a 45-foot birdie putt on the



United States' Patrick Cantlay celebrates after holing his putt that led to him winning his afternoon Fourballs match on the 18th green at the Ryder Cup golf tournament at the Marco Simone Golf Club in Guidonia Montecelio, Italy, Sept. 30, 2023.

Associated Press

18th that won it.

It gave the Americans some hope but only until Europe won another Ryder Cup and burnished his reputation as "Patty Ice," a clutch putter impervious to the moment, whether from pressure, criticism or noise. A lot of noise.

Cantlay was like that at Caves Valley in 2021 during a stunning rally to beat Bryson DeChambeau in the BMW Championship three clutch putts to end regulation, three more during a six-hole playoff when he never looked like the winner until he won.

He was at it again in the Presidents Cup last year, making an 18-foot putt on

the final hole in the dark to win one match, making a pair of 20-footers to halve holes in another win.

"If you had to hand select someone to hit a big putt on your team, I think Pat would come to a lot of people's minds," said Jim Furyk, the Presidents Cup captain last September and an assistant to Keegan Bradley for this Ryder Cup. Just don't look for a big fist pump. "Patty Ice" also refers to his emotions. It's usually little more than a pinch of the bill of his hat, assuming he is wearing one.

"The best way to engage a crowd in the Ryder Cup is by making birdies," he said flatly.

Bethpage Black figures to be a big test on a lot of levels, starting with the noise. The crowd at this public course on Long Island is notorious for being rowdy. "He does an amazing job of staying focused on what he needs to be a professional the right way, and he's done that since he was a little kid," said Jamie Mulligan, his coach since Cantlay was a boy at Virginia Country Club in Long Beach, California.

"He grew up in a tour player environment. He was able to see at a young age that guys are able to click in and nothing matters but the shot you're playing," Mulligan said.

"People think the crowd or the noise of the Ryder Cup gets to him. I don't think he hears it. The more it rumbles, the more he clicks in on what he's supposed to do."

But it's more than just the verbal noise at this Ryder Cup.

The American team is getting a \$200,000 stipend this year there was talk about it all going to charity feeding into the "Pay for Play" dialogue that first surfaced in 1999. The report from Rome and the hat-waving at Cantlay turned out to be a big focal point.

No chance of it dying out this week, especially when Cantlay showed up Monday for the first day of practice wearing a hat. That is sure to stoke more speculation about his motives.

If he hears about it, odds are he won't care. Nothing seems to get under his skin, and he rarely pays attention, anyway.

"I don't read or spend any time on social media," said Cantlay, who prefers Ayn Rand or Marcus Aurelius or the Winston Churchill trilogy.

"I'm aware that people are on there all the time. I've never been that interested in spending time on that." Most fascinating to Cantlay was how an unfounded report in Rome could spread so quickly in one day that it galvanized an entire gallery into hat-waving mocking of him. □